

VZCZCXRO7929
OO RUEHROV
DE RUEHKH #0640 1161020
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 251020Z APR 08
FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0655
INFO RUCNFUR/DARFUR COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE
RUEHTRO/AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI IMMEDIATE 0334
RHMFISS/CJTF HOA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 000640

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR AF A/S FRAZER, AF/SPG, AND AF/C
NSC FOR PITTMAN AND HUDSON
ADDIS ABABA ALSO FOR USAU
PARIS FOR KANEDA

E.O. 12958: DECL: 04/23/2013

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [SU](#) [CD](#)

SUBJECT: CHAD: UFDD, UFDD/F REITERATE IMPORTANCE OF PEACE
PROCESS

REF: A. LIBREVILLE 176

[1](#)B. KHARTOUM 637

Classified By: CDA Alberto M. Fernandez, Reason: Sections 1.4 (b) and (d)

[1](#)1. (C) In an April 24 conversation with Poloff, representatives of Mahamet Nouri's Union des Forces du Developpement et de la Democratie (UFDD) and Abdelwahid Aboud Makaye's UFDD/Fondamentale welcomed the increased international engagement on the Chadian conflict evident during the April 10 Contact Group meeting in Libreville, Gabon (Ref. A). Brahim Djidda, Nouri's envoy in Khartoum, characterized the Gabon meeting "as a real process." He suggested, however, that the Chad-Sudan dialogue should be conducted in parallel to inter-Chadian negotiations.

[1](#)2. (C) Djidda called on the U.S. to energize efforts to construct a true political process among the Chadian Government, the rebel movements, and the opposition political parties. "We don't want to take power by force," said Djidda. "We want negotiations. But there has been too much manipulation from France, Libya, and others." He and UFDD/F representative Mokhtar Yaya said that the rebels have delayed a renewed offensive in the hope that the U.S. will sponsor constructive negotiations.

[1](#)3. (C) Though characterizing Deby's government as "delinquent," Djidda said that Deby will not need to abrogate all power. He suggested instead that a power-sharing deal is possible based on an "amendment" to the 1996 constitution that could be ratified by the National Assembly after a six-month interim period to prepare for elections. Yaya claimed that Deby could even remain president if he accepted more limited--and clearly delineated--powers.

[1](#)4. (C) Both Djidda and Yaya dismissed the recent appointment of Prime Minister Youssouf Saleh Abbas, referring to a statement by Nouri on the Internet that "it is a non-event." They called Abbas "a tool of Deby" who lacks independence and power and deemed his appointment a "partial solution." "We need a global solution for all Chadians that involves the political parties, the movements, and the international community," said Djidda.

[1](#)5. (C) They similarly dismissed rumors that the Chadian rebel movements are "Al Qaeda, Islamists, or terrorists," calling these allegations "French lies on behalf of Idriss." They acknowledged that much of Chad shared cultural ties to Sudan--including language and religion--but Djidda asserted that the "Sudan program in Chad is totally different from our

program--we need political change in N'djamena to help our
people."
FERNANDEZ